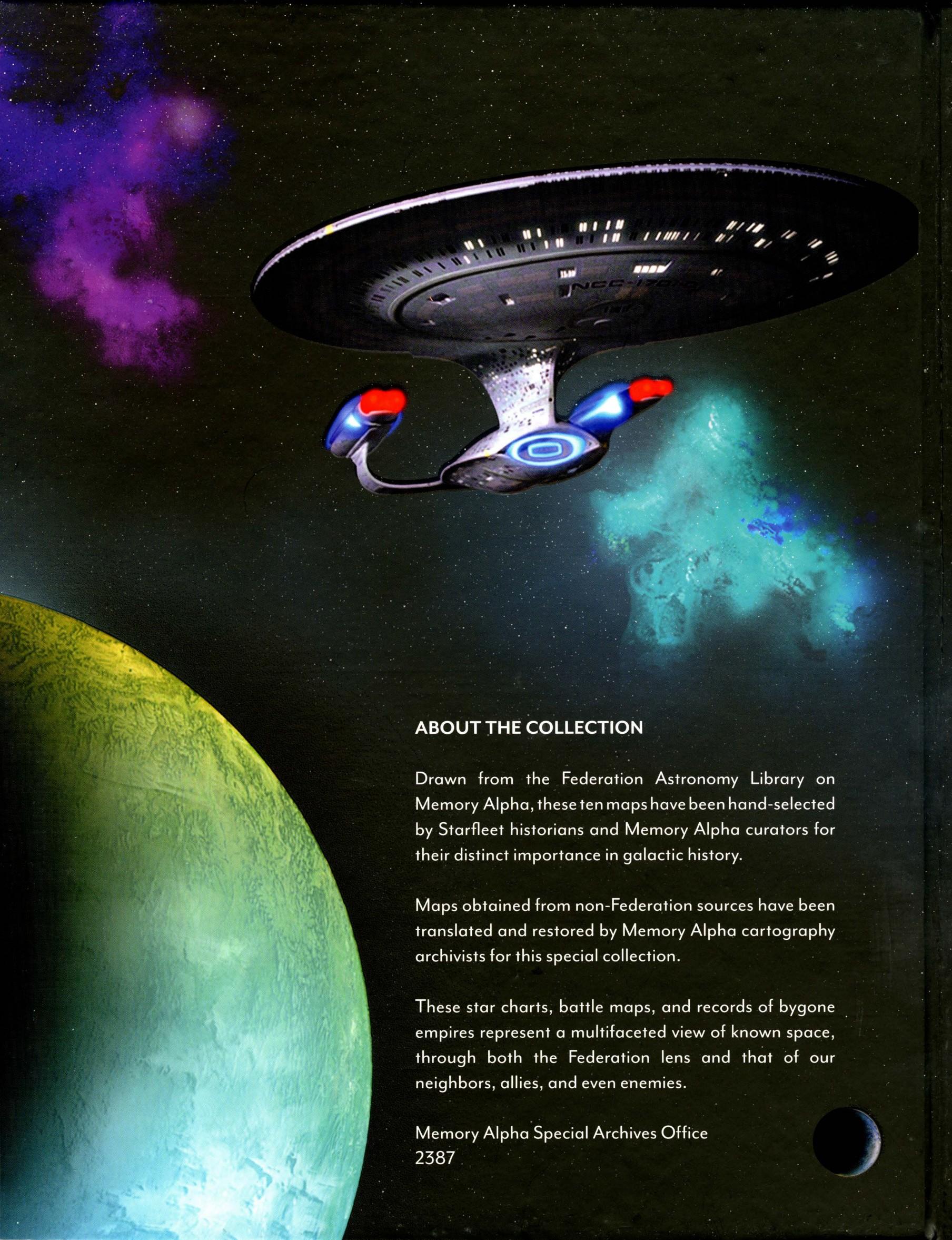


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MAPS FROM THE STAR TREK UNIVERSE**

LARRY NEMECK



ABOUT THE COLLECTION

Drawn from the Federation Astronomy Library on Memory Alpha, these ten maps have been hand-selected by Starfleet historians and Memory Alpha curators for their distinct importance in galactic history.

Maps obtained from non-Federation sources have been translated and restored by Memory Alpha cartography archivists for this special collection.

These star charts, battle maps, and records of bygone empires represent a multifaceted view of known space, through both the Federation lens and that of our neighbors, allies, and even enemies.

Memory Alpha Special Archives Office
2387

STAR TREK™

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Star Trek Stellar Cartography: The Starfleet Reference Library assembles ten original, large-format maps of the *Star Trek* universe. Pulled from the cartography archives of Starfleet Academy, these beautifully reproduced maps provide a rare opportunity to view the expanse of Federation space—and beyond—through the multiple lenses of the Galaxy's key players.

This revised and updated edition includes an ancient Vulcan map, a Klingon Empire map from the pre-Organian Peace Treaty era (in the native Klingon), an official Romulan government map of the Empire, a native Cardassian Union map from the Bajor occupation, along with Federation maps from the modern era, covering territories explored up through the *Star Trek: Discovery* series. Housed in a handsome trifold case and paired with a fully illustrated reference book providing detailed information on planets, systems, and topography—while also highlighting key galactic events—this exclusive collection showcases the *Star Trek* universe like never before.

TEXT BY LARRY NEMECEK

MAP ILLUSTRATIONS BY IAN FULLWOOD, ALI RIES, AND GEOFFREY MANDEL

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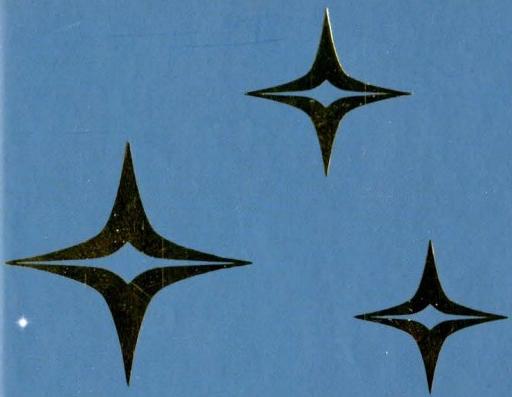
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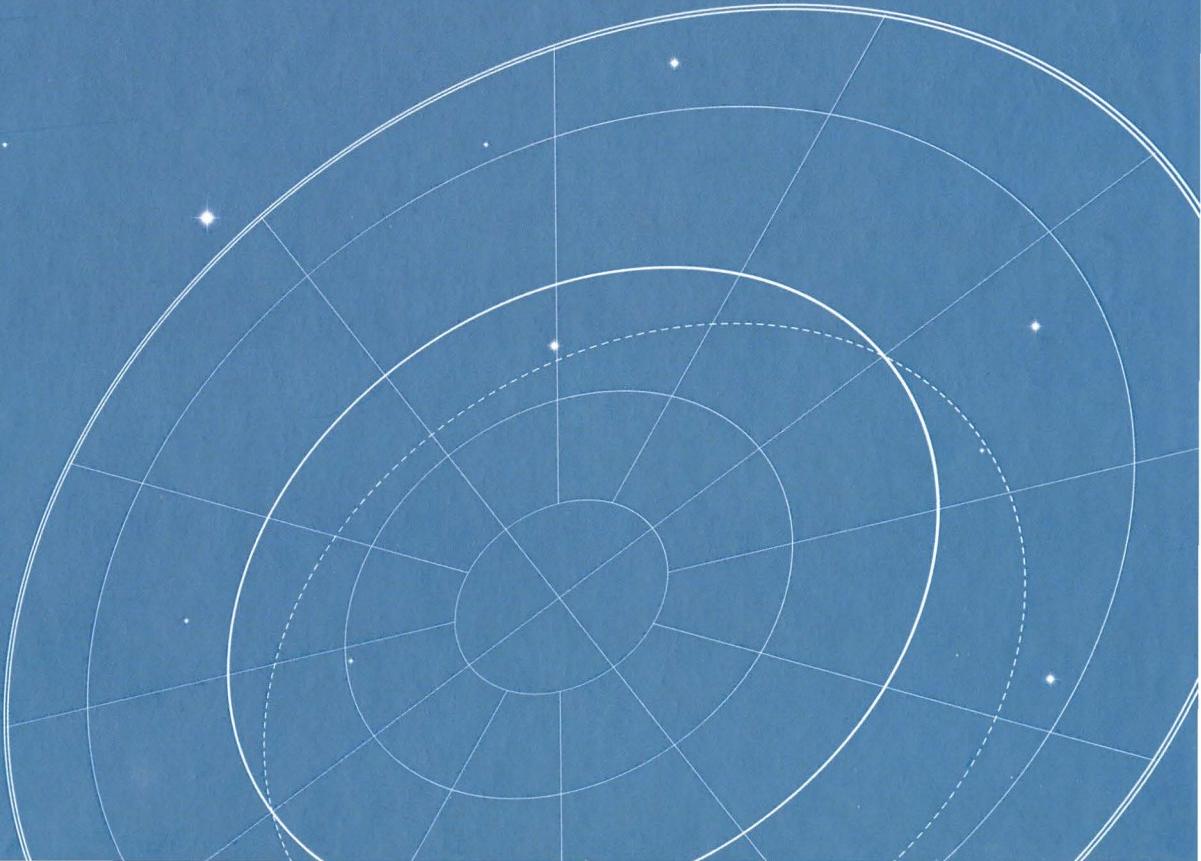




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MAP

I

KNOWN SPACE

SOURCE: RHIIS TALEE, ANDORIAN
ARTIST

LOCATION: POPULAR FINE ARTS
COLLECTION (ON LOAN),
MEMORY ALPHA

DATE: 2386

REGION: Alpha and Beta Quadrants, straddling Galactic Meridian
midway from galactic center to outer rim

DEPICTED: Major stellar-density regions in 2386

VOLUME: About .003% of the Milky Way Galaxy

α

β



ANDORIA

Known to members of the United Federation of Planets as “local space,” this region is some 700 light-years across and contains the greater intersection of all the adjacent spacefaring civilizations. Relatively speaking, it’s not very large, considering the whole Milky Way Galaxy measures 100,000 light-years across and its component spiral arms approximately 10,000 light-years deep. When seen from “above” in the great planar view of the Galaxy’s disk, this crowded region lies about 25,800 light-years from galactic center. It reminds us that despite advances in warp technology and the discovery of stable wormholes and subspace corridors, barely 20 percent of the Milky Way has been charted and considerably less explored.

That leaves a lot to the unknown—and a lot to appeal to mapmakers. For millennia, cartographers have strived to represent the facts in their work. But the artists among them can’t resist the pull of the mysterious unknown, adding embellishment based on sheer speculation. In this way, they sometimes resemble the maritime scribes of Earth’s Middle Ages, adorning the outer reaches of their maps with the warning “Here There Be Dragons.” From the vantage point of modern cartographers, their predecessors might be considered more artists than scientists. On many worlds, the line between the two crafts was often nonexistent.

Such is the case with the first map in the collection. It is an accurate rendering of the major local powers in the Milky Way Galaxy, designed as much for beauty as for function. Digital artist Rhiis Talee of Andoria created this iconic piece. It can be found in living quarters and classrooms all across the Federation.

That dual-use nature was intentional, as Talee has achieved a raw organic look, even while utilizing the standard norms of astrographic format. She presents the great planar view of the Galaxy’s disk, for example, wherein the standard orientation of galactic center is “up” or map top, and the outer galaxy’s rim is “down.” And yet, like the “compass points”

drawn by the sea-charters of ancient Earth, the demarcator between Alpha and Beta Quadrants is not only functional but adds to the whimsy of the overall piece of art.

Of course, galactic political entities do not occupy solid space—any more than they reflect a uniform color. The actual numbers of worlds varies due to stellar density, so as with any two-dimensional rendering, the final appearance of “boundaries” is anything but a solid line. Still, these aesthetic outlines in art are as accurate as those in any official chart: Talee takes her shapes from the latest stellar imaging scans, courtesy of the postwar Quadros 3 and 4 probes, now entering their second decade of service. With their new data, we know the latest extent of the peripheral Tholian Assembly and Breen Confederacy, as well as the latest “farside” growth of the postwar Klingon Empire. The full extent of these shapes—the sprawl of Federation and Klingon territories, the bound-up constraint of Cardassia and Romulus, the filaments of Breen and Tholia—all communicate at a glance the dynamic that location and contact play in shaping the destiny of peoples.

If the clearer view of the borders of the Federation’s neighbors is a new revelation, the Federation’s concept of its own territorial identity is also in flux. Just fifteen years ago, scientists had few clues to explain the commonness of humanoids—and then came Dr. Richard Galen.

The congestion of humanoid societies in this region is more than coincidence. The groundbreaking work of Dr. Galen—concluded after his death in 2370—finally revealed the reason many humanoids dominate this region: They were planted there. Theorists now believe that the most ancient spacefaring species of the Milky Way, dubbed the Preservers, was behind “seeding” efforts of dozens of species on their current homeworlds—and the source of many common origin myths among them.

Shortly after his death, Galen’s associates, in continuing his work, discovered that the DNA of Romulans, Klingons, Vulcans, Cardassians, and humans—among others—all share

a unique, tailored code as bipedal humanoids. A Preserver’s holographic message, activated with a final DNA clue collected on Vilnor II, explained that genetic material to foster intelligent life was deposited in the primordial oceans of many species’ eventual homeworlds about 4.5 billion years ago.

Such affinity adds an unexpected layer of meaning to the beauty of Talee’s “shapes,” so colorfully presented. Throughout history, the stellar powers’ shifting borders have more often meant the colors of spilled blood. This is true for millions of inhabitants caught in the crossfire of history, as with the tumultuous Dominion War, which took the lives of millions.

Just as tragic is the Hobus subspace supernova that recently destroyed Romulus and other systems—another wild card that serves as a reminder that maps can represent life and death on a grand scale.

Still, in the face of such conflict and chaos, art can be the great leveler. As an accurate star map, hundred of classrooms find the basic information of “Known Space” just as trustworthy a reference as any database extract. The general flow of contact and conflict among the local powers suddenly makes great visual sense, while as art, it reminds the observer how truly close all beings are.



MAP
II

ALPHA QUADRANT

SOURCE: FEDERATION MASTER
ASTROMETRIC DATABASE

LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA
CARTOGRAPHY ARCHIVES

DATE: 2386

REGION: Approximately 300 x 400 light-years, midway from
galactic center to outer rim

DEPICTED: Major stellar-density regions of the Federation,
Cardassians, Tholians, Breen, Ferengi, Talarians, and First
Federation

MAJOR HOMeworlds: Earth, Tellar Prime, Bajor, Trill, Betazed,
Cait, Izar, Cardassia Prime, Ferenginar, Fesarius (homeworld to
the First Federation), Talar, Breen, Tholia

MAP AREA: Approximately 2% of the entire Alpha Quadrant



THOLIAN
ASSEMBLY

MEGARA



TALARIAN
REPUBLIC

TALAR

CARDASSIAN
UNION



SARPEDION
UNEFRA
Tong Beak Nebula

DREON
STARBASE 257

SEPTIMUS
Rulor
Nebula

FREE HAVEN

CARDASSIA
B'HAVA'EL
(BAJOR)

DEEP SPACE 9
XEPOLITE
STARBASE 310

Hugora Nebula
McAllister C5
Nebula

ALPHA MAJORIS
ARGUS ARRAY

STARBASE 129
SCALOS
ALGOL

STARBASE 214
TALOS

GAMMA TRIANGULI
PLATONIUS
GALEN

GRAZER

Sahndara
Nebula

JANUS
KAZAR

WURNA MINOR
CAMUS

CYNET

UNITED FEDERATION
OF PLANETS

61 CYGNI
(TELLAR)
SOL
(EARTH)

DENEb
(Kaitos)
TAU CETI
(KAERIA)

STARBASE 9

MAH-BU
Arachnid
Nebula

CAPELLA
TAGRA
QUAM

BETa ZETA
(BETAZED)
MINOS KORVA

SETLIK
Betreka Nebula

STARBASE 47
HALKA
STARBASE 2

PLANET Q
BENECIA

Beta Niobe Nebula

CAMUS

The Galactic Meridian is not unlike Earth's Greenwich Meridian, which provided the baseline for determining time zones across that planet. Just as Greenwich was home to England's Royal Observatory during a period when that country was one of Earth's great powers—its scientific influence was as great as the recognized might of its military—so, too, is Sol III. Better known as Earth, it's currently considered the focal point of the immense sphere of Federation scientific influence. Accordingly, the Federation and Starfleet's military equals—the Klingons, Cardassians, and Romulans, among others—have fallen into using not only the sector grid but even Earth's ancient Greek letters as quadrant labels.

The modern system evolved in the 2280s, as Federation trade and Starfleet exploration blossomed during a period of newfound stability with Qo'noS and Romulus. It was also the time of the creation of the cooperative "Planet of Galactic Peace" on Nimbus III. The Federation saw the need for an expanded sector-mapping system—the most logical place to draw the baseline cleanly was through Earth. It already acted as the de facto capital of the United Federation of Planets, with both the Federation Council and the Federation President's office located there, as well as Starfleet Academy and Command Headquarters itself.

Because of the limited range of early propulsion systems, such an extensive charting system had been unnecessary during the preliminary days of Earth interstellar exploration. It is only by happenstance that the Tellarites appear as the sole founding Federation member located on the "Alpha side," not far from Earth's position on the border. Longtime member worlds such as Betazed, Trill, and Izar are also located in the quadrant.

As seen in Map 2 of the collection—a standard astrometric extract by Memory Alpha staff using the Federation General Catalog (FGC)—the Cardassian Union is one of the most controversial of the Federation's neighbors. Descendents of the region's ancient Hebitian civilization, the resource-poor

Cardassians developed a brand of expansionist fascism that was already a contentious issue for the Federation at first contact—even before the discovery of the Bajoran wormhole in 2369.

That wormhole appears as a tiny point on the map of the Bajor system's asteroidal Denorios Belt. But its discovery jump-started contact with the unexplored Gamma Quadrant some 70,000 light-years distant—far ahead of the pace of normal exploration—and initiated contact with a distant region located near the wormhole terminus at Idran. For good or ill, the awareness of the xenophobic Dominion would change the known Galaxy forever and lead to the bloody interstellar conflict known as the Dominion War (2373–2375).

Bajor remains a fascinating world—home to an ancient culture steeped in millennia of both science and spiritualism, but too weak to defend itself for much of the past century. It was not until Cardassia Prime's brutal 40-year occupation ended in 2369 that the rumored wormhole was confirmed—apparently built by nonlinear life-forms protective of Bajor. The population of Bajor worships the wormhole inhabitants as their deities, referring to them as "The Prophets."

Also in the stellar vicinity is Tzenketh, home to another spacefaring culture that engaged in a brief war with the Federation. Like several of its far-flung neighbors, the Tzenkethi Coalition has kept to itself recently. Meanwhile, trade with the paternalistic, humanoid culture of the Talarian Republic has helped the Federation avoid any outright armed conflict. A test conducted in 2266 by a representative of the First Federation on the crew of the *U.S.S. Enterprise* resulted in a peaceful first contact.

One of the largest known regions of naturally occurring plasma storms can be found on the Cardassian border near Tzenketh. The area received its colorful nickname, the Badlands, from a terrorist group made up of outlaw Starfleet officers and Federation colonists, following the redrawing of the Federation-Cardassian border in 2370. Known as the

Maquis, this group used the region to evade pursuit from their enemies. The Badlands' endemic cyclonic storms presented a daunting navigational hazard to all who entered this treacherous "no-man's-land."

The Ferengi Alliance is a cluster of colonies and indigenous peoples, all centered on the unique trading culture of the species native to homeworld Ferenginar. A world perpetually covered in rain, its humanoid natives have spread their own unique religion, based on profit, for centuries. The title of the Ferengi ruler, the Grand Nagus, dates back 10,000 years to Gint, who established the Ferengi people's much-revered "Rules of Acquisition." The Ferengi were initially rumored to be physically fierce and carnivorous, but formal first contact with the Federation in 2364 showed their scheming personalities and tenacious spirit to be more impressive than their short stature.

Two of the most enigmatic peoples among the major powers of the quadrant are also the most distantly located from Earth. The Tholians, an insectoid species, were first encountered by pre-Federation Earth forces in 2152. However, formal first contact is often cited as occurring in 2268, in a standoff over the lost Federation starship *Defiant*. Although the Tholians last attacked a Federation facility in 2353, relations have markedly improved since the 2370s, with an exchange of ambassadors, and an increase in trade items such as Tholian silk.

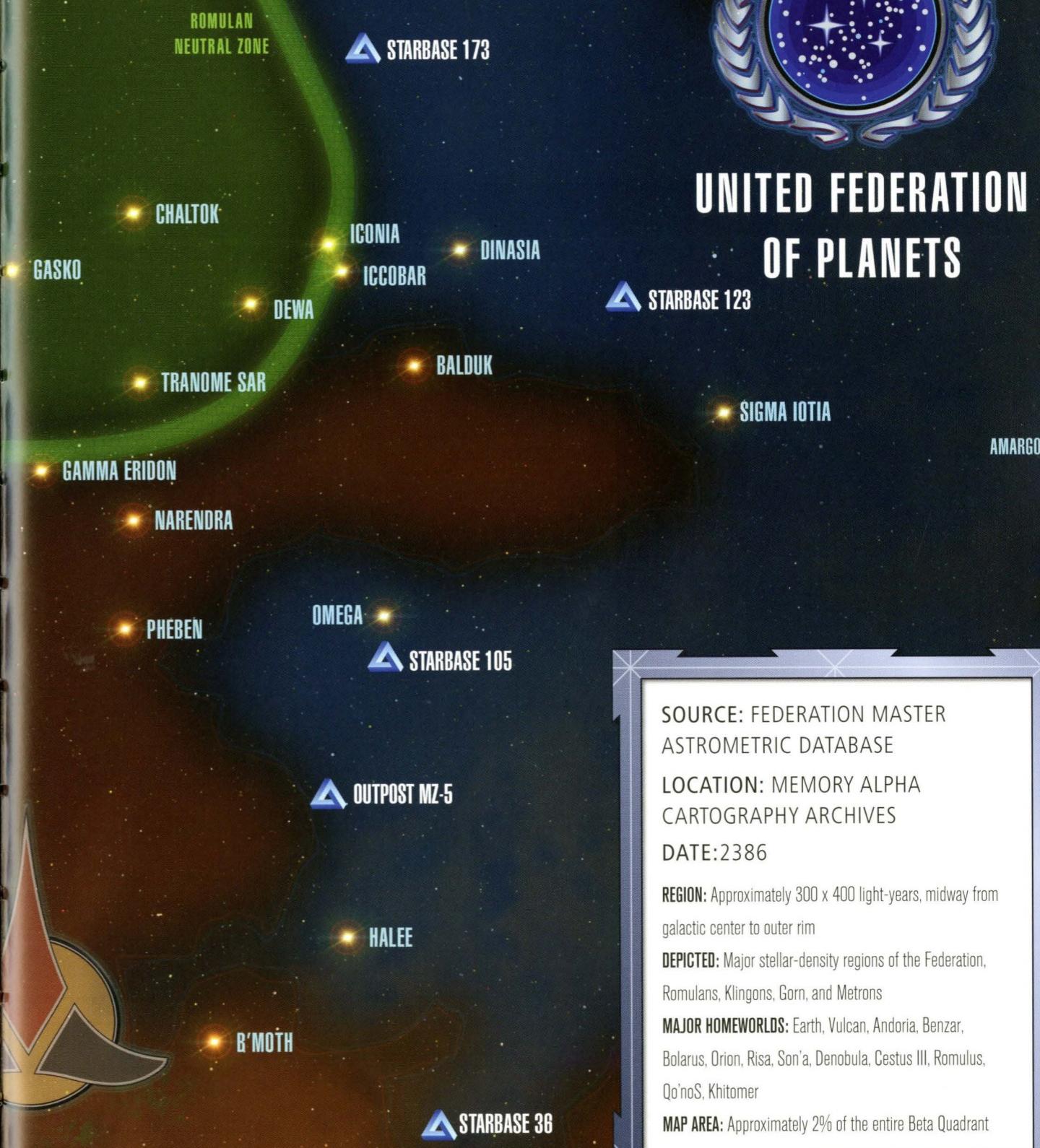
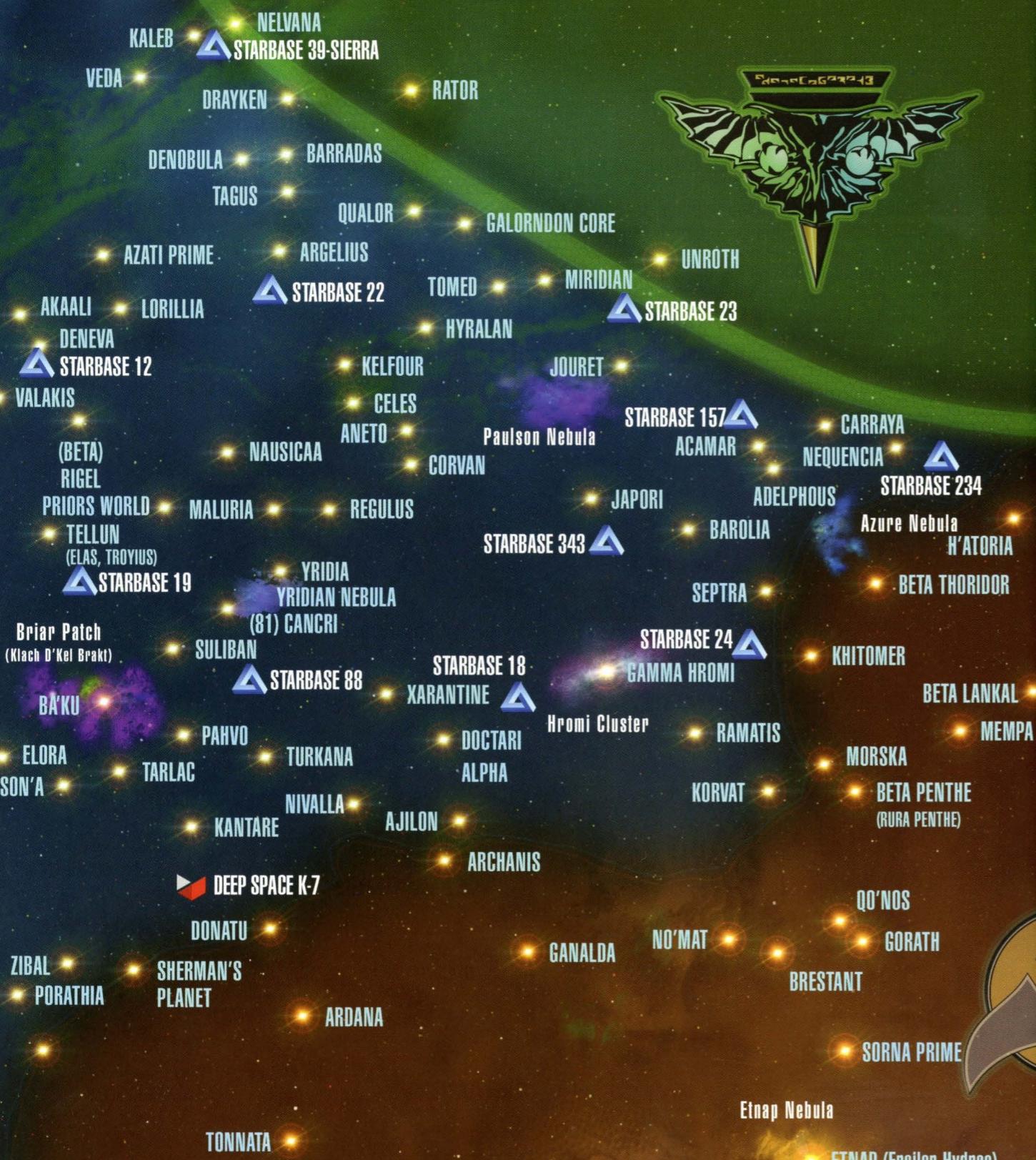
Even more mysterious to the Federation realm are the Breen. Reportedly humanoid, the Breen's tolerance of extreme cold temperatures is legendary—and their capacity in combat cannot be understated. Prior to the Dominion War, the Breen Confederacy had remained a mysterious neutral, but their unanticipated coalition with Dominion forces in 2375 nearly turned the war into a rout against the Alliance. The brazen Breen suicide raid on Earth in late August of that year was the first attack on the planet since the Xindi strike two centuries earlier. With the war's end, the Breen have largely withdrawn into relative isolation once again.

It is important to remember too that our neighbors are hardly the first to dwell here. The expanse between Cardassia and Ferenginar was home to the long-dead Promellian civilization, whose war with the neighboring Menthar a millennia ago wiped out both species at the Battle of Orelious IX. Even more powerful were the Tkon, whose empire of trillions existed some 800,000 years ago in an area between today's Tholians and Klingons, but collapsed when its home star went supernova.

Most of all, it should be noted that "known space" is still truly a relative term. Only about 10 percent of each quadrant is known and surveyed, much less mapped or scouted in any real detail—and well beyond the frame of these "local" maps.

With a decade of peace since the Dominion War and today's high-warp starships leading the way, the vast unexplored Alpha Quadrant beyond Fesarius, Tzenketh, or even the Taurus Dark Cloud lies ready and beckoning. From there to the galactic rim and the iconic energy barrier surrounding it is still another 25,000 light-years away. Who knows what life-forms reside within—friend or foe—or how long until our frame of "local space" is expanded once again?

BETA QUADRANT



UNITED FEDERATION OF PLANETS

SIGMA IOTIA

AMARGOSA

SOURCE: FEDERATION MASTER
ASTROMETRIC DATABASE

LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA
CARTOGRAPHY ARCHIVES

DATE: 2386

REGION: Approximately 300 x 400 light-years, midway from
galactic center to outer rim

DEPICTED: Major stellar-density regions of the Federation,
Romulans, Klingons, Gorn, and Metrons

MAJOR HOMEWORLDS: Earth, Vulcan, Andoria, Benzar,
Bolarus, Orion, Risa, Son'a, Denobula, Cestus III, Romulus,
Qo'noS, Khitomer

MAP AREA: Approximately 2% of the entire Beta Quadrant

STARBASE 36

Historical scholars may one day be tempted to use the term “Alpha Quadrant powers” to describe the Grand Alliance: the Federation, Klingon, and Romulan forces that united to beat back the Dominion invaders from the Gamma Quadrant. Unfortunately, the term is both inadequate and inaccurate.

The Bajoran terminus of the artificial wormhole that allowed travel to a location 70,000 light-years away is indeed in the Alpha Quadrant—as were the major battlefronts of the conflict. And certainly the core group of aggressors who started the conflict were non-Alpha species. But, as seen in this extract from the Federation General Catalog, the Klingons and Romulans are located in the Beta Quadrant. Drawing the imaginary Galactic Meridian right *through* the Sol system, in fact, actually guarantees that half of all objects seen from Earth—friend or foe—must by definition lie in the “other” quadrant.

Much of the Beta Quadrant is dominated by territories belonging to the Romulan and Klingon empires. Even the densely populated swathes that encompass Federation affiliates lie in close proximity to those two powers. This is why the Federation’s interactions with Klingons and Romulans, alone or in tandem, have for so long been shaped by galactic politics and boundaries. The two giants have never been united, although, when it served a purpose, they flirted with brief alliances for the sake of technology, or to present a united front against the Federation. At other times, when they were not tilting against Starfleet, they battled each other.

A great deal of Earth’s early spacefaring history—from the ups and downs of early relations with the Vulcans and Andorians, to easier acclimation with Denobulans, Bolians, and Risans—actually flowed in the direction of what would later be called the Beta Quadrant. But those encounters pale in comparison to the deadly war that Romulus launched once they recognized Earth’s growing influence as a uniter of regional rivals. But if they thought that striking out

against Earth forces would put an end to that influence, the Romulans were sorely mistaken. Between their surprise attack on Starbase 1 in 2156 and their decisive rout at the Battle of Cheron in 2160, the Romulans not only suffered a humiliating defeat at the hands of the people of Earth, but also managed to cement their enemy’s foothold in the region. A significant result of the Romulan War was to drive local planets to Earth’s side; and within months the United Federation of Planets came into existence. And now, more than 200 years later, the resulting Neutral Zone drawn between the combatants still remains in place—through hot war, cold war, isolation, and even alliance.

The threat of Federation cultural overwhelm had not been lost on the Klingons either. After a quiet century following first contact with Earth, the empire’s squabbling houses drew closer under would-be messiah T’Kuvma and his warning to “Remain Klingon!” The bloody but inconclusive war with the UFP he sparked in 2256–57 lasted more than a year, but the warrior’s heart he reawakened in his people lingered on—with a second war 10 years later averted only by intervention of the enigmatic Organians. That shock, and the explosion of Qo’noS’s moon Praxis 25 years later, has since led the Klingon Empire to expand in a nonconfrontational way—in the opposite direction. Moreover, unlike its century-old Romulan counterpart, a similar neutral-zone border buffer was dissolved in the Federation-Klingon alliance set out in the Khitomer Accords beginning in 2293.

The known region Beta Quadrant is not without smaller cultures, of course. Most notable is the reptilian Gorn species, which launched into a bloody first contact with the Federation via its 2266 attack on the Federation outpost on Cestus III. Relations were later repaired, thanks to a fortuitous third-party intervention by the neighboring Metron Consortium. Cestus III has since been jointly resettled to the point where its Pike City Pioneers baseball team is a major proponent of that long-abandoned Earth sport’s revival.

The Son’a, a small but powerful spacefaring race of the Beta Quadrant, attempted to influence senior Starfleet personnel in a bid to claim the Ba’ku planet for its own use in 2375. With subjugated worlds in the nearby Tarlac and Elloran systems, the onetime Dominion supplier is located near a large supernova remnant, a navigation hazard dubbed Klach D’Kel Brakt by the Klingons and the “Briar Patch” by the Federation.

A mysterious region named the “Delphic Expanse” once lay only 50 light-years from Earth, yet angled some 2,000

light-years from “top” to bottom” within the 10,000-light-year thickness of the galactic disk. The Expanse was home to five species known as the Xindi. The Xindi were misled into attacking Earth in 2163, at the behest of the transdimensional species that they knew only as “the Guardians.” The Expanse and the Guardians’ dysfunctional physics were ultimately revealed to be a massive biosphere deadly to most Class M lifeforms, prepared as a more friendly environment for the would-be invaders. Thankfully, the region evaporated upon their defeat.



MAP
IV

CARDASSIAN UNION

SOURCE: ANONYMOUS ASTROGRAPHY
CLERK, CARDASSIAN CENTRAL
ARCHIVES

LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA CENTRAL
ARCHIVES, EXTERNAL GIFTS DEPT.

DATE: 2364

QUADRANT: Alpha

CAPITAL: Lakat, Cardassia Prime

MAJOR SPECIES: Cardassian (humanoid)

SUBJECT SPECIES: None since 2375

MAJOR WORLDS: Cardassia Prime, Ventani II, Chin'toka

OBJECTS OF NOTE: Badlands, Tong Beak Nebula

LANGUAGE: Cardassian

CURRENCY: Cardassian lek

dark matter
nebula
(DARK MATTER
NEBULA)

לְזָן
(Lazon)

סִמֵּרָה
(Simerra)

תַּבְּרָה
(Tabrah)

וְעַנְּאָלָה
(Avenal)

וְנַטְּרָה
(Ventra)

מוֹנָה
(Monah)

רָמָתָה
(Ramatah)

קוֹרָה
(Korrah)

רוֹנָה
(Rondah)

סְרֶפְּדִיָּה
(Srepdien)

טוֹרָה
(Torrah)

וְרִיאָה
(Vriah)

חֵלֶשׁ
(Chelash)

תָּונְגְּ בָּקָה
(Tong Beak Nebula)

אַלְגָּה
(Algah)

וְלוֹסָה
(Velos)

לְרָמָה
(Rama)

אלפא אַלְפָה
(ALPHA ALFA)

הַרְּבָּלְדָּןְסָה
(The Badlands)

וְוִינְוָרָה
(Vinor)

פָּולְקָה
(Pullock)

וְרָגְּוָלָה
(Regular)

כָּרָדָסְסִיר
(Cardassia)

וְרָגְּוָלָה
(Regulon)

הַגְּוָרָה
(Hugra Nebula)

אלפא מָגָ'וִיסָה
(ALPHA MAJORIS)

טְמֵיכָלה
(Temechla)

דְּבוֹסָה
(Devos)

הַלְּנָה
(Hlnah)

סְיָבָרָה
(Sybaron)

וְרָגְּוָלָה
(Regulon)

סְוָלָסָה
(Solass)

וְרָגְּוָלָה
(Regulon)

Of all the major powers in “local space,” none have followed a more tortuous path in recent decades than the Cardassians. Within the past half-century, the homeworld of Cardassia Prime has undergone at least four changes in government and is still recovering from the ravages of its ill-fated choices in the Dominion War a decade ago.

While nearby powers can still recall the Cardassian Union as the fearsome fascist military state it once was, their generosity and help in rebuilding the shattered homeworld have kept pace with the Cardassian move to create a democratic society. Some Cardassians may quietly yearn for the order of authoritarianism again, but the trauma of near-genocide has shocked their society into a more open approach—one that history reveals is not so foreign to their cultural DNA.

The ancient Cardassians, known as Hebetians, were actually a peaceful and reflective people not unlike their neighbors, the Bajorans. Their civilization reached its height over a millennia ago. Although Cardassian propaganda long held otherwise, research in 2371 revealed that it was ancient Bajoran “solar sailors” who first crossed the 5.25 light-years to Cardassia Prime in the 16th century on simple lightships, bringing the gift of hyperlight travel. Cardassia thus became second only to Earth as the youngest of the major warp-capable powers. Its first contact with Bajor initiated a link that would inexorably draw the two worlds together over the coming centuries.

From earliest recorded times, Cardassians have always valued family as much as they did order, and observed universal gender equality. The Cardassian arts are full of luminaries such as the poet Iloja, the artist Nanpart Malor, and the novelist Preloc, not to mention iconic works such as Shoggoth’s enigma tales and *The Never-Ending Sacrifice*, as well as the entire repetitive epic novel genre. But then as now, Cardassia Prime was a resource-poor world. The once-flourishing Hebetian society had fallen due to poverty created

by unsupportable lifestyles and social extremes; eventually, the people turned to the military as saviors.

Centuries of struggle and aimless leadership on Cardassia Prime ended in the 19th century when Tret Akleen, a native of the Ventani II colony, arose to lead his people under a new banner and a new way. He called for putting the state before self for survival, with renewed expansion into space to gain needed resources and agriculture. Akleen’s historic declaration of a “Cardassian Union” included the three-tiered checks-and-balance system of democratic administration. It was comprised of the civilian Detappa Council, an external military overseen by the Central Command, and internal security by the Obsidian Order. The beleaguered people, buoyed by hope and relief, embraced Akleen’s call for “selfless devotion” as the best means to survival, under the new ruling order he outlined. The new expansion of Cardassia would begin with a drive to colonize the habitable sister worlds of its own system.

But the ideal did not last long, and the so-called First Republic was dying by the dawn of the 22nd century. Behind the scenes, the powerful Central Command and feared Obsidian Order soon outmaneuvered the Detappa Council for power, relegating it to figurehead status, and the two armed agencies vied for true control of daily life on the homeworld. For more than a century, it was the image of the Cardassian *gul* captain and Cardassian warship that served as the face of a reinvigorated empire to outside worlds; many would soon be overtaken as unwilling colonies and even forced-labor camps.

Bajor suffered the most. Never having developed a powerful military, Bajor was annexed by Cardassia in 2319, ostensibly for its own good. The ruse did not last long. The pacifist Bajorans eventually endured occupation and plundering so brutal that it rivaled that of the Nazi regime’s crimes during Earth’s Second World War.

The Cardassian offering chosen as the fourth map in this collection is an example of a typical “pride-of-empire”

bureaucratic digital print made by an anonymous clerk in the Office of Secure Database Documents in the Central Archives. The map dates to 2364, at what is arguably the high point of Cardassian prestige and power, just on the eve of the climax of the Federation War and Cardassia’s subsequent withdrawal from Bajor. Cardassian text on the original map came translated into Federation Standard. It survived the recent devastation of Cardassia Prime when it was smuggled off-world.

The pride evident in this 2364 extract cannot belie the truth, though, that not even a string of conquered worlds could stem the drain on Cardassian resources brought on by dreams of easy expansion. By 2367, the High Command sued for peace with the Federation after over a decade of war. They agreed to formally redraw their borders, creating a Demilitarized Zone around much of their common frontier in the Dorvan, Almatha, and Algira sectors—not unlike the Neutral Zone established with Romulus. That move, coupled with Federation pressure and growing attacks by Bajor’s resistance cells, finally forced Cardassia to pull out from Bajor and the orbiting Terok Nor mining station built in 2346. The station was soon placed under the administration of the Federation Starfleet, and designated “Deep Space 9.”

The presence of Starfleet right on its doorstep proved irritating enough to Central Command, as did the near simultaneous discovery of the adjacent Bajoran wormhole. Adding insult to injury were the Maquis, Federation colonists who felt displaced by the new borders and refused to leave their homes. The Maquis began attacking their new “rulers” with ever more daring raids on Cardassian trade and military targets.

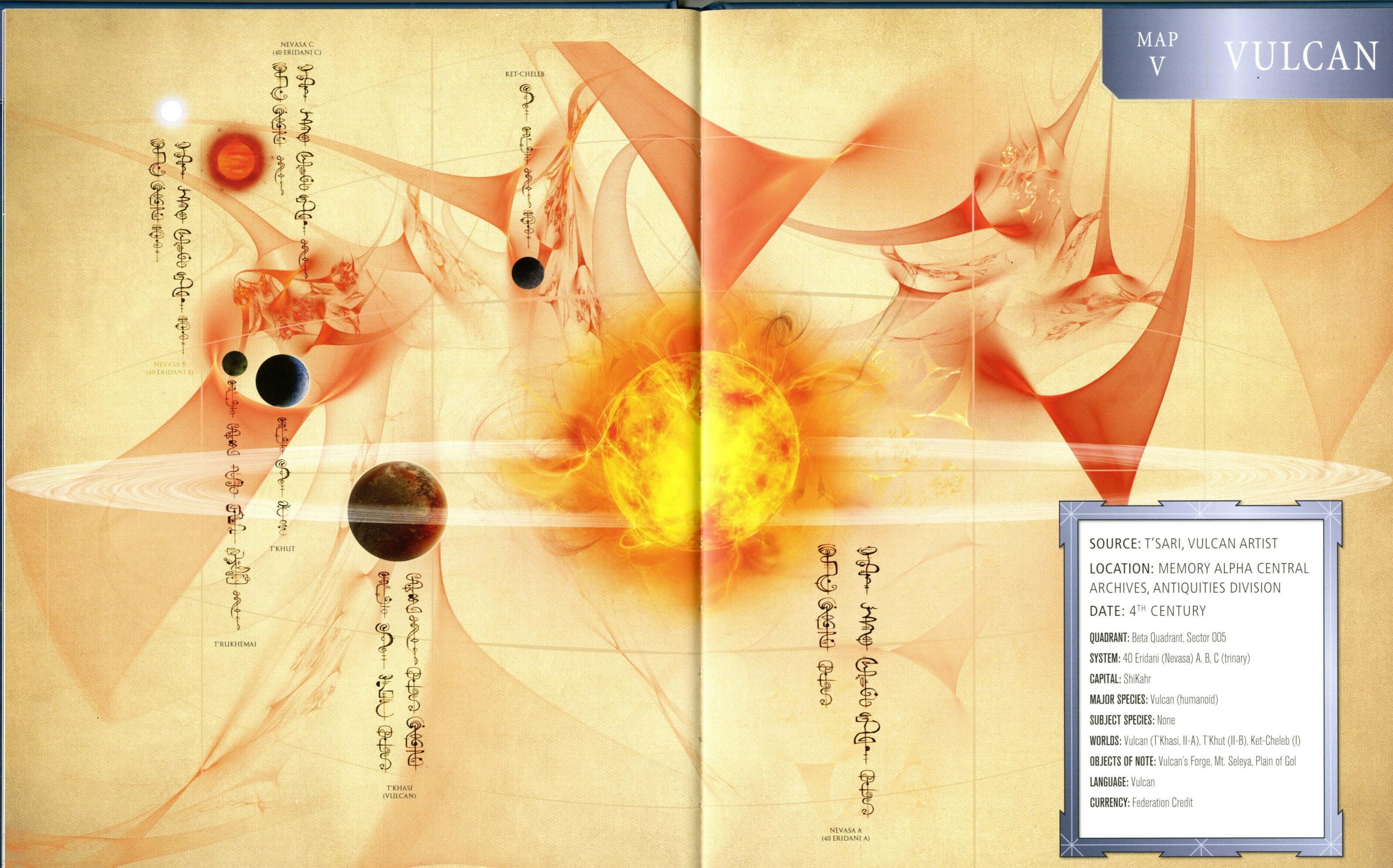
But the Dominion threat from the Gamma Quadrant on the other side of the wormhole soon led to the end of modern Cardassia. In a quick turn of events, the Obsidian Order’s secret attack on the Dominion Founders homeworld in conjunction with their Romulan counterparts, the Tal Shiar, ended in debacle in 2371. That destabilized the Central Command

and led to a civilian coup that restored the weak Detappa Council to power. Fearing that the Cardassian government had fallen prey to infiltration by Dominion Founders, the Klingons attempted to attack Cardassia. The Federation ultimately managed to dissuade the Klingons, but alienated their close allies in process. Then in 2373, occupied Bajor’s onetime prefect Skrain Dukat maneuvered his way into control on Cardassia Prime and swiftly allied his world with the Dominion, providing the Federation’s foes with an Alpha Quadrant foothold. The Dominion War began in earnest, but, within two years, Cardassia was displaced as a favored ally. An uprising against the Dominion by the inhabitants of Cardassia Prime was dealt with harshly by the Founders, who leveled most of its cities and killed 800 billion natives—all in the last hours of the war.

As Cardassia rebuilds today, the twin threads of family and order that have so permeated the people since Hebetian times, along with Akleen’s manifesto of selflessness, are starting to take hold as the saviors of society. The trauma of attempted genocide, decimated cities, poisoned resources, and ruined agriculture has left the Cardassians much as they left the Bajorans—who, ironically, have enthusiastically added to the rebuilding effort. It will be a long time before Cardassia returns to any semblance of its former glory, and perhaps that’s all for the best.

VULCAN

MAP
V



After centuries of contact and co-operation, the Galaxy-wide stereotype of dispassionately cold Vulcan logic is still a universally held belief. And nothing could be further from the truth.

Vulcans do indeed have emotions, although their famous embrace of rational stoicism is an attempt to suppress them that dates back to the “Time of Awakening” in the 4th century. By that time, Vulcans already had atomic weapons and rudimentary warp drive, far ahead of humans (whom they had not yet met). The bloody civil wars that stretched back centuries were on the verge of causing their extinction. Thankfully, a visionary named Surak came forward to save his people from their burning passions, spreading the vital message of logic above all. Central to Surak’s message was taking delight—not fear or even simple tolerance—in the differences of others. It was a philosophy they called *Kol-Ut-Shan*, the belief in “infinite diversity in infinite combinations,” or IDIC, symbolized by the triangle-upon-circle insignia that we have come to identify with all things Vulcan.

Surak’s message of logic above all eventually took hold, but it was not a panacea. Surak died of radiation poisoning on Mount Seleya after the last nuclear exchange on his world. The devastation of nuclear winter and fallout drew more Vulcans to embrace the way of hyper-logic as the only path to survival. But some of Surak’s militant opponents never gave in, and they fled the Vulcan system in rudimentary spaceships to found their own society.

In that time, astronomy and art were as evolved as nuclear fission and warp propulsion, as revealed in Map 5 of this collection. T’Sari, a scholar-artist from the time of Surak, is believed to have crafted this representation of the Vulcan star system with incredible artistry—as befits a people already traveling among the stars—during the period of mourning following Surak’s death. Thus, some amount of grief is present here, even with the use of Ceremonial Golic Vulcan, among

the oldest versions of native script. Modern-day Galactic Standard translations have been inserted by Memory Alpha archivists for this edition, including the native Vulcan translations. Note that while numerous dialects are spoken all over the planet, T’Sari uses the most common native term for her world, “T’Khasi.”

The largely hot and dry Vulcan ecosystem is only marginally Class M, but is one of the most unusual and beautiful homeworlds in the Federation. Its capital of ShiKahr is a jagged cityscape circle of form and function. As T’Sari illustrates in her work, Vulcan has no moon, but the tidally-locked co-planet T’Khut (Class G) and its fast-orbiting moon T’Rukhemai are close. Their names effectively translate as “the Watcher” and “the Eye of the Watcher.” The system’s rocky inner Class B planet Ket-Cheleb can also be seen easily from the Vulcan surface. All three planets, plus an outer asteroid belt and an icy planetoid called Delta Vega, actually orbit one sun of a trinary, known natively as Nevasa but most often cataloged by its Earth designation of 40 Eridani. The Class K primary “A” is in turn orbited by a twinned pair of companions: the white Class A4 dwarf “B” and the red flare Class M4 dwarf “C.”

The entire system lies just 16.5 light-years from Earth—and so it was no coincidence that the Vulcan survey ship *T’Plana-Hath* was passing by Sol on April 4, 2063 when Zefram Cochrane’s first warp test trip in the *Phoenix* caught its attention. Vulcan had been aware of Earth for over a century. A crash-landed Vulcan crew had briefly lived incognito in the mining country of Pennsylvania, shortly after Earth’s first satellite Sputnik drew similar attention in 1957.

The relationship forged between the two worlds soon grew into a partnership that helped Earth not only recover quickly from a devastating nuclear exchange—far faster than Vulcan emerged from its own—but also to overcome poverty, want, and disease with such confidence that a united Earth government was soon formed.

But many Vulcans felt that their leaders had strayed from the purest of Surak’s teachings, and Syrran—who claimed to have found the lost *Kir’Shara* arc of Surak’s actual writings—was branded a traitor and exiled along with his followers. The concern was heightened as the Vulcan High Command began to engage in more saber-rattling with rival Andoria over colonies and rumors of spying.

Behind it all was a secret that dated back to Surak’s death—a story that remained lost even to Vulcan: the emigration of Surak’s violent opponents. But these expatriates had hardly forgotten their brethren, despite having settled on a safely distant world. They called this new homeworld *Rom A’losh*, the “Raptor’s Nest”—later more widely known by the name of Romulus. Reunification with the Vulcans remained a goal, but only on Romulan terms. Their agents began to infiltrate the unwitting Vulcan government to steer it away from the purity of Surak’s teachings at approximately the time of Vulcan’s first contact with Earth.

Vulcan and its future were altered in one bold stroke in 2154, in the unlikely guise of Earth Starfleet Captain Jonathan Archer. Archer not only helped Syrran’s disciple T’Pau deliver the *Kir’Shara* arc and Surak’s unedited teachings to the public, but also helped expose “Vulcan” leader V’Las as a Romulan agent. These revelations prevented a war with Andoria and aided in the restoration of the Vulcan way. The exposé sped Romulus on to eventual war with Earth just two years later, but it forever cemented Earth-Vulcan friendship, which formed the core of the United Federation of Planets to come. Ironically, another century would pass before the common Vulcan-Romulan ancestry would become public knowledge.

Today’s Vulcans are impeccably logical—but their emotions are merely suppressed, not absent, unless they succeed in the rigorous study of *Kolinahr* with the Vulcan Masters at Gol. Surprisingly, most Vulcans follow a polytheistic system of spiritualism, and at least honor the history and architecture of their gods, whose tales and myths permeate Vulcan

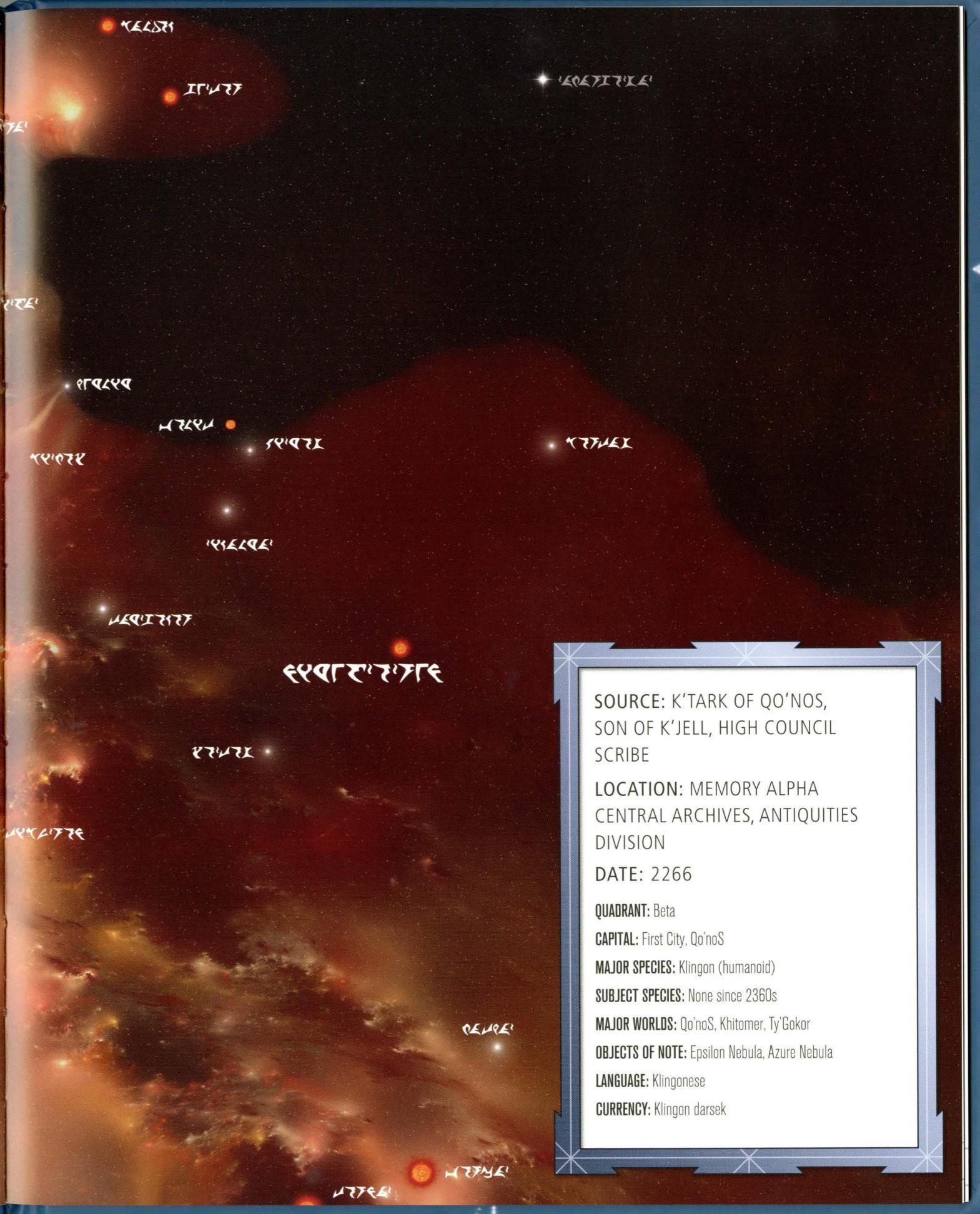
arts and literature to this day. The Vulcan origin story holds the world of *Shak-Ka-Ree* as the source of all creation, and Shariel, the ancient Vulcan god of war, is just one of those honored by Vulcan monks at monasteries such as T’Panit, Almonak, and Mount Seleya.

Vulcan martial arts are as savage as anything known to Klingons, including the fatal *tal-shaya* neck-snap of ancient times. A weapon utilizing telepathy, the long-banned psionic resonator “Stone of Gol” relic, is equally as deadly. And many Vulcans still engage in arranging bonding ceremonies for their children at a young age, which can lead to the *koon-ut-kalli-fee* mortal combat if challenged at the ultimate ceremony.

The celebrated Vulcan longevity—a lifespan averaging 200 years—has led to a succession of living history icons. One remarkable family dates back to First Contact with Earth itself, beginning with Zefram Cochrane’s famous handshake with Vulcan envoy Solkar, whose son Skon first translated Surak into English and detected the secret of the Romulans’ roots. In turn, his son Sarek became Vulcan’s preeminent ambassador for over a century. He married a human woman who delivered a human-Vulcan infant, the equally noted ambassador and scientist Spock. Sadly, this proud family of Vulcan may actually have reached its end, as the heirless Spock was reported missing following his efforts to stave off the Hobus subspace supernova after it destroyed Romulus.

MAP
VI

IMPERIAL KLINGON EMPIRE



SOURCE: K'TARK OF QO'NOS,
SON OF K'JELL, HIGH COUNCIL
SCRIBE

**LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA
CENTRAL ARCHIVES, ANTIQUITIES
DIVISION**

DATE: 2266

QUADRANT: Beta

CAPITAL: First City, Qo'noS

MAJOR SPECIES: Klingon (humanoid)

SUBJECT SPECIES: None since 2360s

MAJOR WORLDS: Qo'noS, Khitomer, Iy'Gokor

OBJECTS OF NOTE: Epsilon Nebula, Azure Nebula

CURRENCY: Ksh

OKKENUT. Ringer darsker

For centuries the Klingon Empire and the Federation were frozen in a tense cold war, punctuated with occasional hot spots, and no end in sight.

It was the chaos following the explosion of Praxis, the overmined Klingon homeworld moon, that finally opened the door to Federation-Klingon détente in 2293. The peace settlement proposed by Klingon Chancellor Gorkon cost him his life—and nearly the life of the Federation president—before a conspiracy by reactionary factions from both sides was disclosed and quashed. The landmark Khitomer Accords that year, and later amendments, not only led to sustained peace and the abolition of the Federation-Klingon neutral-zone buffer, but made a united coalition against the Dominion War invaders 80 years later possible.

Relations between the two species were frosty right from first contact. When an errant security courier named Klaang crash-landed in rural Oklahoma on pre-Federation Earth in 2151, Captain Jonathan Archer chose to return the fallen warrior to Qo'noS (pronounced "kro-nos") with good intentions. Early in his commission on the NX-01 *Enterprise*, the inexperienced captain had no idea of the Klingons' cultural view of heroic death and shameful survival that would now paint him and all humans as dishonorable. For decades to come, all human acts—and soon by extension, those of the Federation—would be seen in the same suspicious light.

More than a hundred years later, a house leader named T'Kuvma would use that suspicion to stoke fear of Klingon cultural "assimilation" by the Federation. T'Kuvma created the conditions to spark open warfare in an incident known as the "Battle at the Binary Stars" in an effort to unite the Klingon houses into a single, unified empire on May 11, 2256. While T'Kuvma perished in the battle and his success in uniting Klingon houses is open to debate, the Klingon Empire's place on the galactic stage was solidified through his actions.

The Klingon culture of honor and battle began with

Kahless the Unforgettable, founder of the Empire and its first great warrior. Kahless is the prototype for every Klingon since. It is known that early in the 9th century of Earth's Common Era calendar, Kahless defeated the tyrant Molor, using the iconic Klingon "blade of honor," the *bat'lath*. He then took Lukara as his mate, and created the Klingon Empire based on his own code of honor. Klingons love their legends, often relating them in song, and the folk tales spin even greater boasts of the epic hero. One is the story of Kahless's first *bat'lath*, formed from hair set afire in the volcano of Kri'Stak and forged in the Lake of Lusor.

The outworlders' view of Kahless's descendants has changed little since Klingons first ventured off the homeworld to meet other spacefaring races. It's that particular mix of bombast and guile that sets them apart in the Galaxy, and their heritage for warrior-cunning and strength makes them formidable foes. Klingons have never been conquered, but they were badly pillaged by the ancient H'urq race of the Gamma Quadrant, centuries ago, further steeling their resolve against weakness. With time, and the pressures of internal politics, the Klingon's penchant for conquest over lesser worlds has largely given way to expansion via native colonies and military outposts.

In Map 6, archivists have selected an epic map from 2366 by Honored Klingon Scribe K'tark of the High Council. It can be said to mark a zenith in Klingon braggadocio. As a tool of propaganda, it reinforces Qo'noS's claim to many of the border worlds, such as Organia, that put it at odds with the Federation. Note that K'tark makes no attempt to offer translations in Galactic Standard for Federation eyes, though it is reprinted in smaller form here in translation (see pages 30-31).

Thanks to seeds of peace planted by the non-corporeal Organians, who enforced a hiatus in battle between the Klingons and the Federation, the post-Khitomer era was able to blossom. As the Organians predicted, Klingons and Federation citizens would eventually learn to see their com-

monalities. Klingon relations with the Beta Quadrant's other great power, Romulus, would flare for far longer and actually propel the Klingons' thaw with the Federation.

Klingons value combat above all else, but it is too easy to simply label them a "warrior race." As a modern power, Klingon society recognizes the need to hone its edge with career fields as diverse as law, agriculture, science, art, commerce, and medicine—though old prejudices about viewing the weak as a lost cause still remain. Thus comes the Klingons' cultural shame about imprisonment, as Klingons are conditioned to choose suicide over capture, unless escape is a real possibility. It also belies the shame heaped upon those jailed in the infamous dilithium gulag at Rura Penthe.

Klingon arts, especially their opera and dramas—many of which are akin to works of Earth's Shakespeare—are known throughout the Galaxy. Society is mostly gender-neutral, yet class-based, although upward mobility can come via prowess in battle. The great houses of nobility have the political and military power, and their representatives hold seats on the governing High Council, which meets in the Great Hall in First City on Qo'noS. Council members select and then advise the Empire's chancellor, a position held for life. Yet Klingons still find a way to equate politics with honor. Chancellor K'mpec was poisoned in 2367 as a prelude to the House of Duras's grab for power, but the corrupted council made history when it turned to a human outsider—Starfleet Captain Jean-Luc Picard—to be the Arbiter of Succession. The outsider Gowron won the title and survived the civil war that followed, but ruled for only eight years. Gowron died in a combat by proxy challenge with Worf, son of Mogh, who then insisted that Dominion War hero Martok become the new chancellor.

With death so central to the Klingon psyche, theology and afterlife are well-defined—and Kahless plays a central role there as well. Ancient Klingons worshipped many gods, but at one point legend holds they grew tired of the inequity

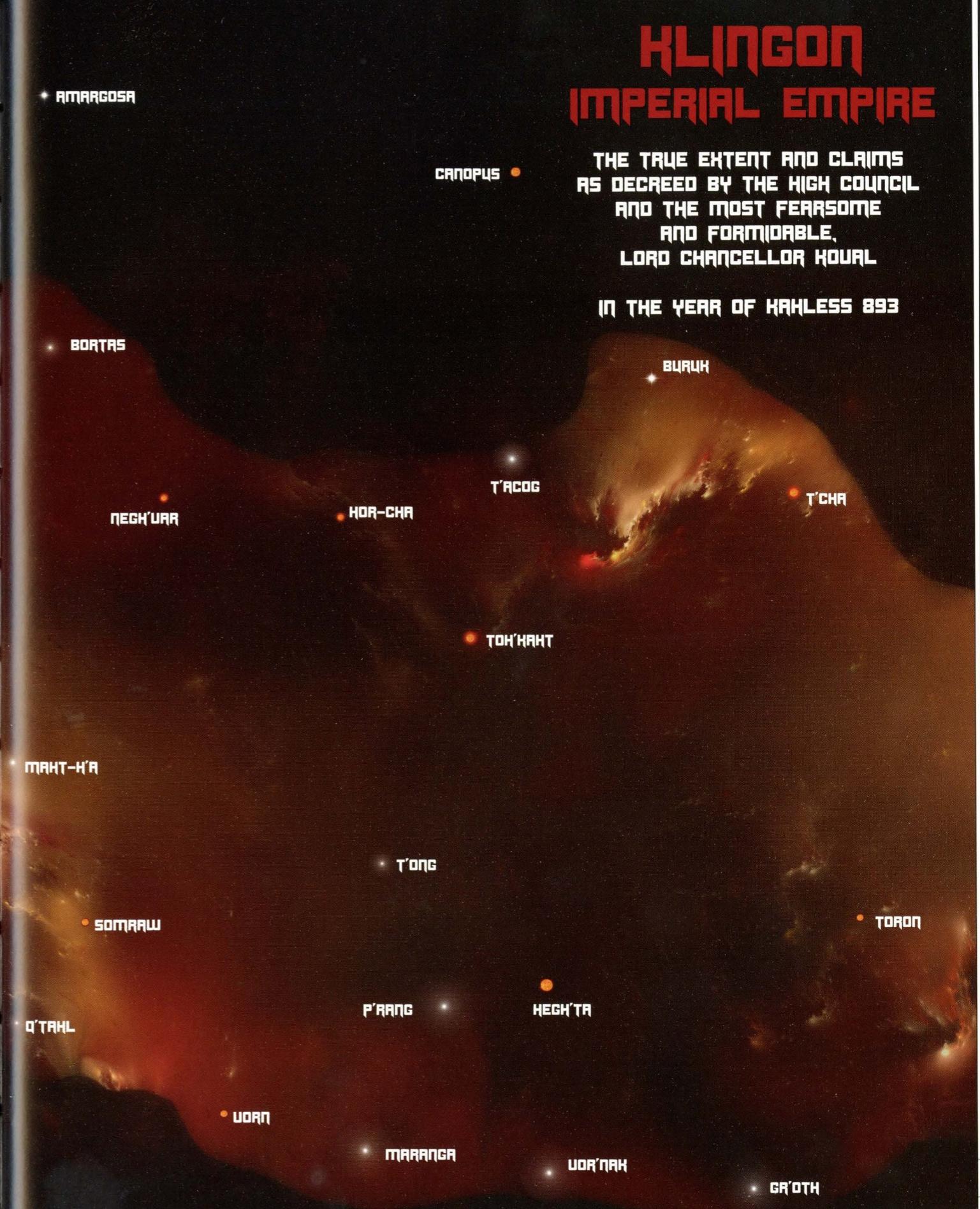
and rose up to slay them. Today, while Klingons famously have no "devil," they do traditionally bid their fallen a safe journey to *Sto-vo-kor*, the realm of the honored dead (in contrast to meeting *Fek'lhr* among the dishonored at the Gates of *Gre'thor*). Kahless's reputed last act before his mysterious disappearance in 822 was to make an oath known today as The Promise: to some day return from *Sto-vo-kor* and lead his people again. Reportedly, he gestured to a distant star in the night sky as the site. Literalists determined his target to be the Klingon star Boreth, and later established a monastery there to "keep watch." Incredibly, Boreth clerics in 2368 announced news of his shocking return—and while the Kahless they produced was revealed to be a clone made from preserved DNA, the living image proved too powerful to resist. Klingons revived the title of emperor for the first time in 300 years for this Kahless, though he serves only as a ceremonial figure-head, with no direct impact on the power of the Chancellor or High Council.

Each year, on streets and stages throughout the Empire, Klingons reenact Kahless's hand-to-hand victory over the Tyrant Molor in colorful Klingon pageantry and opera throughout the annual Kot'baval Festival.

KLINGON IMPERIAL EMPIRE

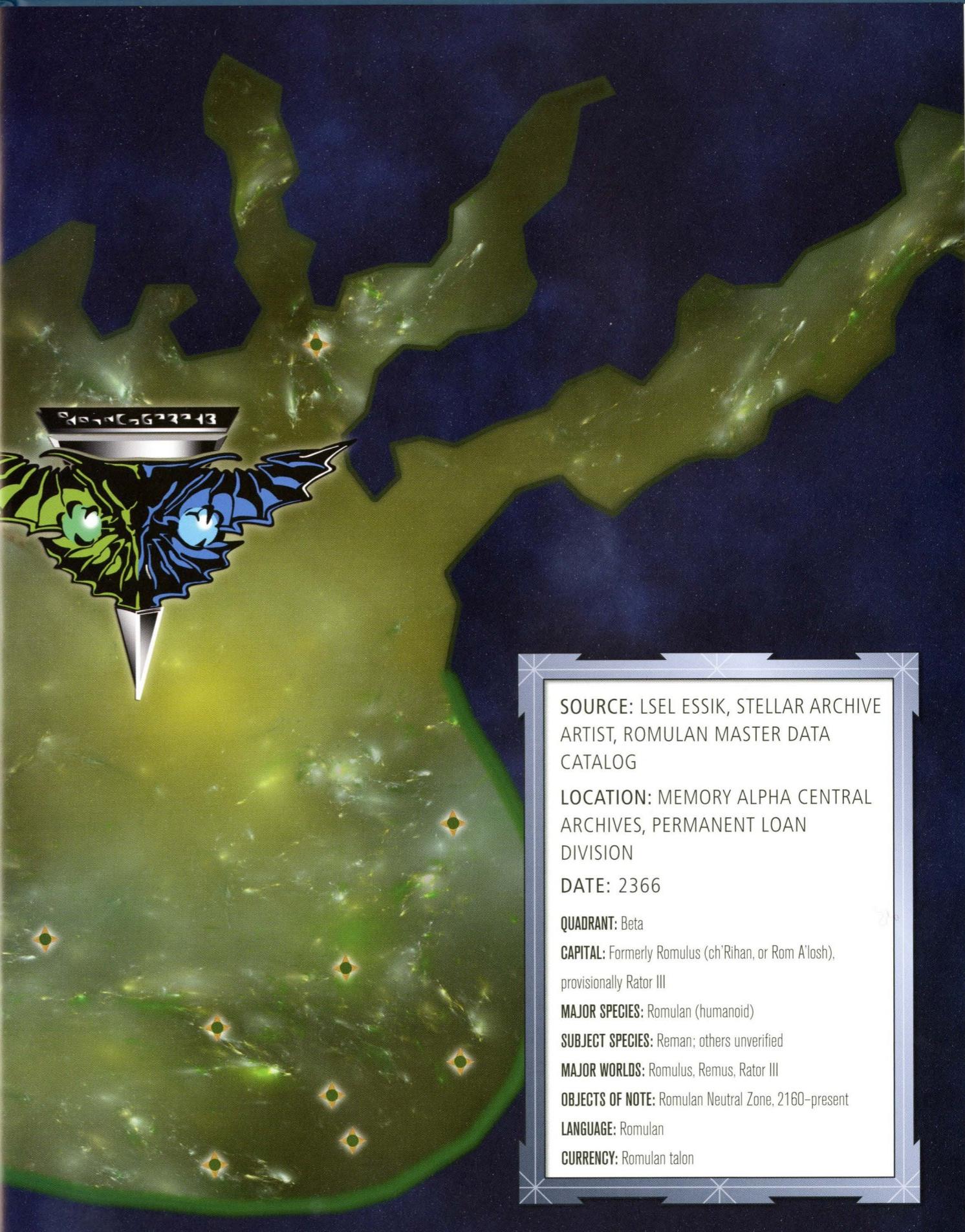
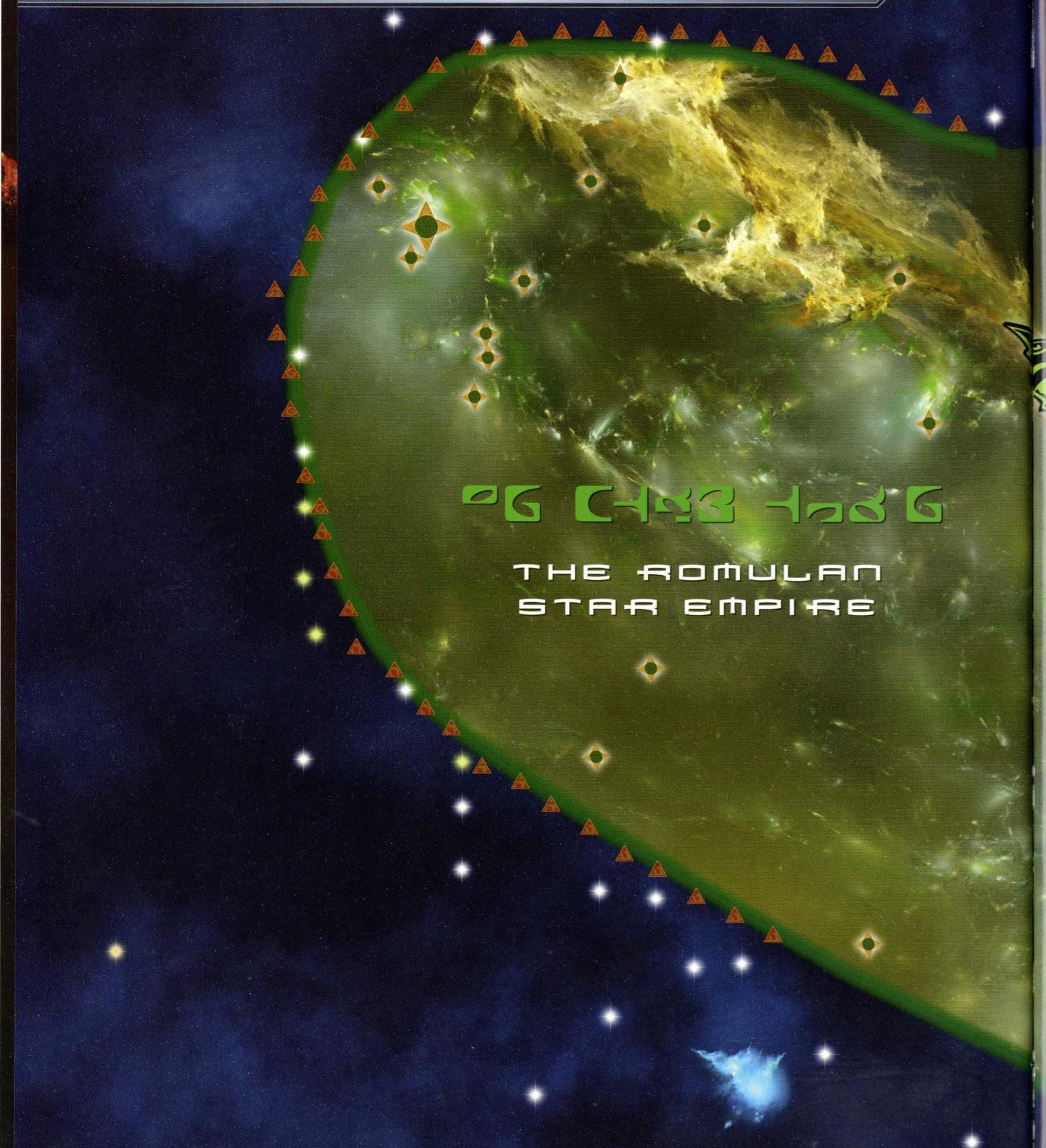
THE TRUE EXTENT AND CLAIMS
AS DECREED BY THE HIGH COUNCIL
AND THE MOST FEARSOME
AND FFORMIDABLE,
LORD CHANCELLOR HOURL

IN THE YEAR OF KAHLESS 893



MAP
VII

ROMULAN STAR EMPIRE



SOURCE: LSEL ESSIK, STELLAR ARCHIVE
ARTIST, ROMULAN MASTER DATA
CATALOG

LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA CENTRAL
ARCHIVES, PERMANENT LOAN
DIVISION

DATE: 2366

QUADRANT: Beta

CAPITAL: Formerly Romulus (ch'Rihan, or Rom Alosh),
provisionally Rator III

MAJOR SPECIES: Romulan (humanoid)

SUBJECT SPECIES: Reman; others unverified

MAJOR WORLDS: Romulus, Remus, Rator III

OBJECTS OF NOTE: Romulan Neutral Zone, 2160–present

LANGUAGE: Romulan

CURRENCY: Romulan talon

No major culture known to the Federation has been involved in galactic politics for so long yet remained such an enigma as the Romulans.

Today, most know the origin of the Romulans: Despite the looming threat of nuclear self-annihilation on Vulcan, militants still opposed Surak's teachings of logic as the only way that warring Vulcans could avoid self-extinction. The last of the militant holdouts, reportedly led by S'task, fled to a new world of their own—an eventual seat of empire that the humans of Earth would call "Romulus." At first, the ex-Vulcans referred to themselves only as "they who march beneath the Raptor's wing"—and a fascination with birds of prey has marked Romulan culture ever since, visible even in the designs and markings of their warships.

Secrecy also has been part of Romulan DNA since their exodus from Vulcan in early low-warp ships. Over the next few centuries they briefly settled along a string of outbound worlds, one step at a time. The less militant stayed behind and called themselves Debrune, but theirs was a short-lived civilization in the end. The core group, developing a language derived from old High Vulcan, and taking the name Rihannsu, finally arrived at the Class M planet they'd targeted when they left their homeworld. On ch'Rihan (Rom A'losh or "Raptor's Nest" in the ancient tongue), the Romulans soon began rebuilding the roots of a stable and advanced society bent on conquest—but one forever looking over its collective shoulder at outsiders, particularly those from the world they left behind.

Their new world, second in orbit around its star, was adjoined by a third sister planet that was tidally locked—like Earth's moon Luna or Vulcan's sister planet T'Khut, always showing the same side to its companion planet, without revolving. Though Class Q, the planet, known as "Reman," could sustain life. Inhabitants were used as slave labor for dilithium mining and ground troops, among other things.

In the early days of warp propulsion, as spacefaring civilizations in the region discovered each other, the Romulans kept their distance, entering external affairs only once a century or so—and even then remotely. For a few decades, using their secret heritage to advantage, Romulus planted agents on Vulcan to internally steer society away from Surak's teachings, destabilizing relations with sister worlds Romulus saw as potential rivals, such as Andoria and Tellar Prime. Romulus saw Earth as a similar threat following a blind ship-to-ship first contact in 2152. Soon after, Earth's increasing role as a unifying influence among Romulus's neighbors pushed the Romulan Praetor and his Senate to at last take on a real enemy directly—starting, true to Romulan form, with a sneak attack.

The four years of war that followed the infamous raid on Starbase 1 ended in humiliating defeat for the Rihannsu at Cheron (See Map 8 of this collection for more details). Romulus had no choice but to end hostilities and accept a neutral-zone border lined with enemy outposts, leaving the empire nowhere to expand but "back" into the Beta Quadrant. The Romulans did not attempt to engage Earth again for a century, when a commander, in 2266, was told to defy the Neutral Zone to test a new plasma weapon on Earth outposts. But despite his new cloaking device, the Romulan was outfoxed by Captain James Kirk of the *U.S.S. Enterprise*. The commander ordered the self-destruction of his own ship and Kirk reported the existence of both new weapons. Two years later, Kirk took the *Enterprise* across the Neutral Zone and stole a Romulan cloaking device for Starfleet to study.

For some time after that, Romulus flirted with respectability, engaging in a technology exchange alliance with the Klingons and joining with them and the Federation to found the "Planet of Galactic Peace" on Nimbus III. But the show colony failed, and Romulus ended its brief Klingon alliance after giving up cloak technology in return for the superior warp engines of a Klingon D7-class battle-cruiser's design.

At the Khitomer Conference of 2293, Nanclus, the Romulan envoy, was exposed as one of the conspirators behind one assassination and another barely thwarted attempt.

After that embarrassment, and the Tomed incident of 2311, the Romulans withdrew from galactic affairs again—this time for over half a century, though border sparring with the Klingons went on. Map 7 is a native Romulan design that portrays its subject at a high tide. Created in 2366 by Lsel Essik, a Stellar Archive Artist using the Romulan Master Data Catalog, it depicts the long Neutral Zone almost as a noose around the very neck of Romulus's raptor, with the cluster of Federation monitor outposts built up over 200 years as a propagandistic detail.

But for all their amassed military power, covert prowess, and professed skill at playing the long game, the Romulans have never really been a success in galactic affairs. From the overreach of their early agents on Vulcan and underestimation of Earth as an enemy, to backing the Duras sisters and provoking a Federation border blockade during the Klingon civil war of 2367–68, Romulan strategies of subterfuge have been proven lacking. A failed ploy to clone Starfleet Captain Jean-Luc Picard to infiltrate Starfleet in the 2360s, although abandoned, was handled so badly that the clone, named Shinzon, returned to lead a Reman coup against the Senate and Praetor, whom he destroyed with one thaleron radiation device in 2379.

Romulus at first ignored the Dominion threat in the 2370s, and even signed off on a mutual nonaggression pact with the Gamma Quadrant coalition. After Captain Benjamin Sisko revealed a secret Dominion plot against the Empire, however, the Romulans struck swiftly and helped turn the tide. In the climactic Battle of Cardassia, the Romulans fought fiercely with honor—to the surprise of the Klingons—although they lost their flagship in the eventual victory.

With that, hopes were high throughout the Federation for improved relations and mutual trust with Romulus, as the

two were seen as the most undamaged of the great powers in the postwar era.

However, the Empire had barely recovered from the debacle of Shinzon's attack on the Senate when the unthinkable happened in 2387, and the Hobus "subspace supernova" wiped out the entire Romulan home star system, killing billions. A single star explosion just inside the Neutral Zone triggered an intermittent shock wave through subspace—although it was unclear if the cataclysm truly stemmed from natural causes. It was thwarted ten days later with the use of "red matter" from decalithium, which caused a black-hole inversion, tragically claiming the life of Ambassador Spock.

Remnants of Romulan society are known to be re-organizing on various outposts of the Empire, but the shock of losing its entire power structure is already felt, the vaunted Romulan arrogance has given way to simple survival, and factions vie for power in the new order of things. Even the issue of a new Romulan capital world is cause for infighting, with the Rator system apparently the chief contender.

THE ROMULAN WAR

EARTH
TRADING /
EXPLORATION
REGIONROMULAN
STAR EMPIRE

SOURCE: LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JOHN KEVIN MILLBURN, STARFLEET INFORMATION SERVICE

LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA CENTRAL ARCHIVES,
VIA STARFLEET HISTORICAL OFFICE

DATE: 2162

REGION: Alpha/Beta quadrants, Galactic Meridian local space

EXTENT: Gridded area 80 x 90 light-years

PERIOD: 2156-60

COMBATANTS: United Earth, Romulan Star Empire

MAJOR BATTLES: Starbase 1, Sol, Cheron

Earth entered into its first true war in space as a neophyte, facing a far more experienced opponent, the Romulan Star Empire. Romulan hubris caused them to completely misjudge their weak enemy's weakness and ultimately face defeat.

Romulus had slowly built an empire of conquered worlds and resources, but its fleet design reflected the low resistance of its cowed subjects. Earth, in sharp contrast, recently had been shocked out of its complacency by the Xindi attack of 2153. At that point, Starfleet's shipyards began working at full speed, while Earth's lone starship of note, *Enterprise*, took off after the predators.

This chart, Map 8 in the collection, was designed by Starfleet historian John Kevin Millburn. Issued just two years after the armistice of 2160, the chart still bears all the style and markings of a United Earth star map, despite the fact that it was created under the auspices of the new United Federation of Planets, then barely a year old.

Viewed from today's standpoint, this Starfleet "astroggraphic brief" reveals how the scope of the conflict was limited by the small size of that era's fleets, their low warp capabilities, and the simple lack of experience both sides had in the logistics of waging war further away than an adjacent star system. Although the fighting stretched on for three and a half Earth years, the war actually turned on just three key battles—one of them the Romulans' initial sneak attack.

The Romulan Star Empire had been quietly growing throughout the 22nd century, easily claiming the resource worlds of undermatched species. Keeping Vulcan, Andoria, and Tellar Prime at odds had been accomplished through the use of highly placed Romulan spies on Vulcan. Then came the arrival of the Earth spacefarers into the region, with the altruistic desire to make peace and unite them all. With V'Las exposed as a Romulan lackey in 2154, Vulcan's impending Andorian war was called off and the manufactured Babel "crisis" undone. The Romulan Praetor Gileus realized that

Earth had to be put in its place while Romulus still enjoyed its tactical upper hand.

If the formation of the Coalition of Planets—spearheaded by Earth in 2155—seemed a threat, Romulus couldn't help viewing Earth's opening of Starbase 1 a year later as an even bigger one. It loomed just beyond the Empire's border on a Class M planetoid in the Algeron system. The Praetor opted to test the mettle of Earth by claiming the entire Algeron system and ordering an evacuation of all "visitors." After Earth's Prime Minister, Nathan Samuels, signaled that he viewed Romulus's warning as an invitation to parley, Romulus sent five warbirds to attack Starbase 1. On May 18, 2156, the base was completely destroyed, as were two NX-class starships sent to defend it. The *Columbia* was lost in battle, while the *Excalibur* was caught en route to Earth to get word out, after the Romulans jammed subspace channels. However, the *Excalibur* had one celebrated survivor, Bryce Shumar, who evacuated in an escape pod and hid in a comet circling Gamma Hydra. Shumar was rescued four days later, becoming the only eyewitness to the event.

United Earth's response to the attack was a declaration of war, issued on June 1. Despite the losses at Algeron, Starfleet's accelerated ship building program had by then yielded five new NX-class starships to fend off random attacks and escort freighter convoys. The *Enterprise* itself survived a major skirmish at Galorndon Core near the border, but ultimately lost the planet to the occupiers. The Romulan High Command was biding time, feeling confident that it could follow up the Starbase 1 attack with a killing blow right at Earth's doorstep.

Instead, the Battle of Sol, on October 10, 2156, showed how ineffective Romulan intelligence was in the wake of new security measures taken by United Earth. Occupying Denobula as a staging area, Romulus sent ten warbirds to wipe out its enemy, starting with twin high-value targets on

Mars: the massive land-based verteron array and the orbiting Utopia Planitia shipyards. Upon arrival, the Romulans found both targets unoccupied, but they discovered to their dismay that an even larger array hidden on cloudy Venus was not. It easily picked off three warbirds. Pinned down in the array's blind spot behind Mars, the Romulans lost three more warbirds when Starfleet ships arrived from a hiding spot off the Celes asteroid and opened fire. Thoroughly outwitted in unfamiliar space, the last four Romulans managed a long retreat back to the border, while Earth and its top-line NX fleet remained unscathed.

The war would lag for another three years as both sides caught their breath. Romulus turned to the independent planet of Cheron, distant and yet within imperial borders, whose expert shipbuilders were told to improve the cloaking device that Earth ships had previously defeated. Starfleet Intelligence, meanwhile, learned of the plan and an even more strategic bombshell: the location of Romulus. With that critical cartographic detail, Starfleet could go on the offensive and win by forcing the Empire to split its superior warbird fleet.

What resulted has become known as one of the most stunning engagements in the history of modern warfare. Starfleet ordered three of its four NX starships to attack the Cheron shipyards on January 10, 2160—fully anticipating a major Romulan response. Indeed, seven heavy warbird cruisers arrived to defend. As the Earth ships immediately began a cat-and-mouse game at Cheron, the *Lexington* and a small expatriate Denobulan fleet set direct course for Romulus. At Cheron, the Romulans had managed to take out the *Defiant* but lost two of their own warbirds in heavy fighting, when a panicked call arrived from the Praetor commanding them to come defend the homeworld. Three warbirds peeled off; the remaining two were easily picked apart by *Enterprise* and *Atlantis*.

Upstart Earth had beat the odds with an amazing, hard-fought victory. Speaking only by subspace, Earth imposed terms to further Romulus's humiliation. While not claiming any part of the Empire, Earth demanded that all occupied planets be abandoned and a Neutral Zone imposed as a buffer. One light-year wide, the zone was drawn as an ellipse encircling over 80 percent of the Empire's frontier; entry into it by either side would be declared an act of war. Earth would later build series after series of monitor outposts on its side of the line, while the Romulans—recognizing the straitjacket the border represented—would honor the treaty for nearly a century, before crossing into the region.

Grateful for Earth's role in taking the full brunt of local defense, Romulus's neighbor worlds agreed to a truly unified government: the United Federation of Planets. Founded nearly two years after the victory at Cheron, it was exactly what Romulus had tried in clumsy fashion to avoid.

THE DOMINION WAR

TYRA
Mar. 21, 2374

SOURCE: PROF. EAWOOD FULL,
STARFLEET ACADEMY

LOCATION: MEMORY ALPHA ASTRO-CULTURAL DATABASE/STARFLEET RECORDS CROSS-LINK

DATE: 2379

REGION: Alpha and Gamma Quadrants centered on Bajoran Wormhole

DURATION: All years, 2373-75, 2371-73

DOMINION: Jem'Hadar, Cardassians (allied July 2373), Breen (allied June 2375)

ALLIANCE: Federation, Klingons, Romulans (allied August 2375)

MAJOR BATTLES: Deep Space 9, Tyra, Operation Return, Chin'toka I and II, Cardassia Prime

CASUALTIES (2375): Alliance: 945,000; Dominion: 1.18 million; Civilians (all sides): 806 million.

The Dominion War was a devastating conflict waged between a Grand Alliance of the Federation, the Klingon Empire, and the Romulan Star Empire against a Gamma Quadrant culture known as the Dominion. Precipitated by the Federation's discovery of the Bajoran Wormhole in 2369—which cut a 70,000 light-year journey between the two quadrants down to two minutes—the war would trigger carnage on a scale never before endured by humanoid life in the Alpha Quadrant.

At the Dominion's core were the Founders—a spacefaring species of shape-shifters persecuted nearly to extinction by so-called "solids" (humanoids) near their Omarion Nebula home some 8,000 years ago. Over time, the Founders began to take revenge on their oppressors via the support of two genetically engineered species: the Vorta, who acted as administrators and diplomats, and the feared Jem'Hadar, super-soldiers kept in line with an addiction to ketracel-white, a life-sustaining enzyme supplied only by the Founders.

In 2370, first contact with the Federation stirred up intrigue within the Dominion, and fear of "shape-shifter" spies—both real and imagined—soon spread paranoia and infighting to all the Federation's neighbors. The Cardassian Union experienced a civilian coup that year when the Central Command weakened following the obliteration of its Obsidian Order spy network. The network attempted to engage in a preemptive strike on the Founders' homeworld. The Klingons, fearing Founder involvement behind the coup, invaded Cardassia and briefly broke its ties with the Federation when it objected to the invasion. Ironically, the Klingons later discovered that a Founder was posing as the head of the Klingon military. Such paranoia also led briefly to a military coup on Earth itself in 2372, when Vice Admiral Thomas Leyton believed martial law to be the only way to fight potential Founder infiltration.

But the Federation and the Klingon Empire closed ranks in 2373 upon learning that Cardassia's Gul Dukat had

conducted secret negotiations that led to an alliance between the Cardassian Union and the Dominion. With this foothold in the Alpha Quadrant, it was only a matter of months before the Dominion began shipping troops and arms through the wormhole to nearby Cardassia. Tensions mounted in the region when the Romulans signed a nonaggression pact with the Dominion. Bajor, in order to preserve its independence, did the same.

In December 2373, Bajor's move to neutrality forced the Starfleet garrison at Deep Space 9 to abandon the station, which was quickly occupied by Cardassian and Jem'Hadar troops.

The Dominion strategy was twofold: reopen and maintain control of the nearby Bajoran Wormhole for access to reinforcements (Federation forces had previously rigged it with cloaked mines to prevent Jem'Hadar troops from coming through) and attack the central worlds of the Federation and Klingon Empire. For the Federation Alliance, the mission was clear: protect the homeworlds from the onslaught, keep the Wormhole closed against fresh troops, and hit the Dominion's weakest spots: the cloning facilities and ketracel-white sites that were needed to maintain the Vorta and Jem'Hadar.

The strategy can be seen in the trajectory of the war as depicted in Map 9, a digital astrographic output from a database constructed by Prof. Eawood Full of Starfleet Academy. The map directly cross-links recently declassified Starfleet files and the astro-cultural database of Memory Alpha. It should be noted that while wars in space offer a third dimension of movement missing in terrestrial combat, even with the advent of air power, two-dimensional maps can still prove useful for plotting strategy and conveying basic information—even to the use of phrases such as "northern front" (as the Dominion push through Tyra to Bolarus and Benzar was called).

The conflict raged across a huge swath of local space, with shipping raids and small-world skirmishes everywhere.

Even convoys to Klingon border worlds like Donatu V had to be protected. In March 2374, the Alliance's huge loss at Tyra led to the fall and occupation of Federation member Benzar, with Bolius threatened as well. The Dominion advance in the more heavily defended Kalandra Sector was slower going, but the Federation was shaken when member Betazed was overrun.

For a while it seemed the Dominion would enjoy an unfettered path straight to the founding Federation worlds. But with "Operation Return," the Federation-Klingon alliance reclaimed station Deep Space 9 in a bold stroke in March. Strategy changed to avoid large battles in favor of quick in-and-out strikes dubbed "cavalry raids" at selected Dominion targets, most notably the Argolis Array and the major ketracel-white plant on planetoid KF 345-447. But only the revelation of a Dominion plot to conquer "neutral" Romulus ultimately pushed the Star Empire off the fence, as it were, bolstering Alliance forces as they plunged into several major joint operations. Nearby Benzar was liberated, and the "northern front" quickly defused. Most significantly, the new three-party Alliance struck behind the Kalandra lines at the strategic point of Chin'toka and actually managed to dislodge the Dominion.

The surprising entry of the Breen as a Dominion ally in August 2375 caught the Alliance off guard. A severe psychological blow was dealt to the Federation when Starfleet Headquarters and the Golden Gate Bridge—icons of Federation security—were hit by Breen raiders. It was the first direct strike on Earth since the Xindi attack 200 years earlier. Even more damaging was the energy-damping weapon unveiled by the Breen in battle, which rendered the Alliance ships powerless. Desperate research and a stroke of luck finally provided a countermeasure, but not before Chin'toka was retaken by the Dominion.

The Federation and its allies gained surprising assistance late in the war, as Bajor's "Prophet" entities seemingly closed

off the wormhole themselves after Starfleet's mines were deactivated. And in the eleventh hour, Cardassia rallied under Damar, Dukat's successor, who saw that his people were being treated like Dominion cannon fodder. Damar shocked the Founders by organizing the Cardassian Liberation Front as a rear-guard resistance force in September 2374. His group would prove pivotal in influencing Dominion strategy and eventually help win the war.

Gathering confidence, the Alliance braced to attempt a knockout blow to the Dominion on Cardassia Prime in late 2375. The Founder Leader's subsequent order to "wipe out all Cardassians"—triggered by irritation with Damar's growing grassroots rebellion—ignited the passions of those Cardassians still serving the Founders. Crews actually switched sides mid-battle as ships of all worlds looked on, stunned. Dominion surrender finally followed, but not before the bloody final battle took more lives—800 million Cardassians were murdered on their home soil. Arrested as a war criminal, the Founder Leader joined in signing the Treaty of Bajor on Deep Space 9, which sent the Dominion back home and restored the local status quo. For the first time in five years of tension, the Federation and its neighbors faced peace and an uncertain future as the landscape—or space-scape—was forever changed.

MAP
X

FEDERATION HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS



Of all the developed civilizations in the explored area of the Milky Way, none can match the diversity of the United Federation of Planets. Even its name signifies a multiplicity of viewpoints, a shared purpose, and respect for other species—all reasons why over 150 individual worlds and 2,000 trustee colonies across 8,000 light-years have joined its union and shared the benefits of trade, research, culture, and defense.

Science and luck—and perhaps foresight of the ancient Preservers—blessed this region with a multitude of Class M planets whose civilizations came to maturity at approximately the same time. Even so, a shared destiny was far from a sure thing in 2161. The stoic Vulcans irritated the emotional humans and distrusted aggressive Andorians, who in turn antagonized stubborn Tellarites. While the common threat of Romulus was a great unifier, most scholars doubt that their alliance would have succeeded over time without a strong sense of trust and mutual respect. The founding members of the Federation each brought their individual strengths of science, combat, and commerce to the mix, but it was Earth that provided the glue that helped bind them together.

Earth, Vulcan, Andoria, and Tellar, along with a few other nearby worlds, first joined together by forming the Coalition of Planets in 2155, a direct response to the “Babel crisis” instigated by Romulus. The Coalition was a loose association for trade and culture only. But when Earth was attacked by the mighty Romulan Star Empire in 2156 and fought back to victory against the odds, a long-lasting peace was won that all its neighbors would come to enjoy.

The way forward was obvious: The original four allies, plus Earth’s onetime colony, Proxima Centauri, stepped up to forge a strong political Federation, even while preserving each world’s own cultural uniqueness. They signed off on the Federation Constitution on October 11, 2161. Critics have long grumbled about the apparent human-centric nature of the United Federation of Planets, with Earth serving as home

to the Federation President’s office in Paris, the Federation Council in San Francisco, and the headquarters for the alliance’s new merged exploration and defense service, built upon the foundation of United Earth’s Starfleet. But Earth’s reputation as both a uniter and a military power sent a strong signal that democracy and development—not empire and oppression—would be at the core of the new government.

Earth’s war with Romulus was only the beginning of security concerns to come—led by the intractable Klingon Empire. A century of outward quiet was shattered by eighteen months of fighting sparked by the Empire’s fears of Federation cultural assimilation. Tensions lingered, but the uneasy Organian-forced peace of 2266 soon led to the joint founding of the “Planet of Galactic Peace” project on Nimbus III (with Romulus). Eventually, a hard-won détente declared between the Klingons and the Federation at Khitomer in 2293 actually led to the dissolution of the Klingon neutral zone and set the stage for more cooperation. Meanwhile, the Klingon-Romulan alliance that had worried Federation planners lasted only three years—ending with a Klingon battle victory at Klach D’kel Brakt in 2271.

Following the Tomed border incident of 2311, the Romulans withdrew from Federation contact once again, this time for 53 years. Romulus was not, however, inclined to similarly back off from its border adjoining Qo’noS. Romulan attacks raged at both Narendra III in 2344 and at onetime treaty site Khitomer two years later. Klingon reprisal raids were common. In many cases, Starfleet was drawn into the fray. The *Enterprise-C* was lost at Narendra when it came to the defense of the Klingon outpost under Romulan attack. The selfless act boosted Qo’noS’s regard for the Federation.

The story of the Federation is also the story of Starfleet, for the alliance’s armed defense forces are far more than military. Every soldier is also a scientist, diplomat, or specialist in some field key to exploration and research. Starfleet’s example is in large measure the reason behind the incredible growth of

the roll of Federation member planets.

Starfleet’s mission remains much the same as when it was first charted at the Federation’s founding, but the training of its academy cadets has evolved as much as the perspectives of the multifaceted universe around them. A major landmark is Starfleet’s General Order No. 1, the noninterference mandate regarding independent or less-advanced cultures. This order translates into Federation law where it is known as the Prime Directive. The Federation both embraces and respects beings of every color, gender, form, and belief system—and it addresses that acceptance in its laws.

Portraying the scope of all Federation history in a single map is clearly an impossible task. In compiling the information for Map 10, noted Memory Alpha carto-historian Dr. Geoffrey Mandel opted to focus on the context and events central to the nearly 350 years of interstellar cooperation, including the Federation’s neighbors and the rate of Federation expansion in relation to them.

First contacts are often pivotal moments in galactic affairs, but even the best training in the galaxy can’t foresee everything. This is especially true with non-humanoid species, such as the 2268 first-contact incident with the Melkot telepaths. A similar encounter with the powerful telepathic natives of Talos IV (recently declassified) left Starfleet so concerned that the planet was quarantined under the government’s only death penalty.

In some cases, all-out conflict has been triggered by mismanaged contacts, as seen with the Tholians, Breen, Tzenkethi, and Talarians. Meanwhile, as Klingon and Romulan relations improved, tensions arose with a new major player in the balance of power: the Cardassian Union. Starfleet has occasionally dealt with extra-galactic invasion scouts, as on Pyris VII in 2267, and the Kelvans a year later. None compare, though, to the twin Borg attacks in 2367 and 2373, or the offensive launched by the Gamma Quadrant’s Changeling Founders and their Dominion. The Dominion’s

obsession for “order” sparked the bloodiest, most chaotic carnage ever waged in this section of the known galaxy.

What may be most enduring about the Federation is not the names, dates, and events, but the everyday miracle of a framework that allows the uniqueness of planetary cultures to thrive, even as they become part of a larger entity. This balance is at times as challenging as the outward treks taken in starships. Well-known clashes include the age-old debate over the shape of morality (such as the New Fundamentalist protests at Risa), and the clash of science with security (witnessed by the outcry over the secret Genesis Project in 2285, and the ban on genetic engineering that remains from Earth’s Eugenics Wars). The evidence-based mainstream Federation worlds occasionally collide with the strong spiritual belief systems of planets such as Bajor and Qo’noS.

Even the Federation’s vaunted Prime Directive of non-interference remains a source of controversy when inaction can be construed as cruelty. This was the case in 2370–74, when the Maquis supported the rights of those who refused to leave their colony worlds, as the Cardassian-Federation armistice redrew borders and left many displaced. Maquis cells grew so bold they went on to attack Cardassian colonists and military targets—but were ultimately wiped out by the Dominion in a single night.

Who knows where tomorrow’s new history will be made, or who will be there to record it? Federation exploration and contact continues, even as every new surge outward brings a reexamination of the journey that is within us all. For those that can be mapped, spatial shortcuts or not, it will only be a matter of time before the maps are revised and more new neighbors—with any luck, the friendly kind—can be “added to the edges” of the Federation’s ever-expanding frontiers.

Not to contradict Zefram Cochrane, but those frontiers will never truly be final.



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For Janet, again

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"Once an astrographer, always an astrographer."